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EAST EUROPE BRANCH NOTES

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BULGARIA

Reaction to Cyprus Events

The Bulgarian regime is treating the Cyprus fighting in considerably lower key than it did in late July. Foreign Minister Mladenov called in the Greek and Turkish representatives on Thursday to express the hope that their governments would observe the latest UN Security Council resolution. This mild statement sharply contrasts with the dressing down that Mladenov delivered to the Greek Ambassador several weeks ago.

Furthermore, no alert status or troop movements by the Bulgarian Armed Forces has been noted. Indeed, the most intensive military activity reportedly involves troops, who are continuing parade practice for Bulgaria's September 9 celebrations.

Meanwhile, press coverage of events in Cyprus has been extensive and generally on the front page. A recent editorial in the party daily claimed that the renewed violence results from NATO's efforts to turn Cyprus into a military base. When the NATO-backed Greek effort failed to destroy Cyprus' independence, the author explains, NATO "adventurers" then encouraged the present Turkish fighting.

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ROMANIA

Marchais Visit To Romania

The August 5-12 visit to Romania of French Communist Party leader Georges Marchais was exceptionally warm. In rolling out the red carpet, the Romanians arranged for Marchais to have three working sessions and a formal dinner with President Ceausescu.

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State Dept. review completed



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The Embassy reports a number of interesting nuances, particularly with respect to "unity," between the Bucharest communique and the one Marchais signed in Moscow. For instance, Marchais and the Soviets praised the "unity and solidarity" of the socialist movement with pointed references to the 1969 Moscow summit of Communist parties. The Romanian communique, however, spoke of another equally important kind of unity to which "all democratic and progressive forces" contribute "boldly with a spirit of initiative" based on the equality of all fraternal parties. This and other phrasing also implies that neither party is interested in a European or World Conference of Communist parties which would damage this latter concept of unity. As the European conference of Communist and progressive parties approaches, Ceausescu presumably made every effort to encourage more independent French stands and to improve ties with this key West European party.

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